

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 628
By Fitzhugh

A RESOLUTION to congratulate the Nashville Ice Tigers upon winning the Atom/Squirt International A/E Silver Stick Finals in Pelham, Ontario.

WHEREAS, this General Assembly is pleased to specially honor and commend those successful athletic teams that, through their magnificent exploits, bring honor to the State of Tennessee and serve as exceptional ambassadors of this State; and

WHEREAS, one such estimable sports team is the Nashville Ice Tigers Squirt Gold hockey team; with exceptional talent and tremendous stamina, the Tigers captured the coveted Silver Stick Trophy in January of this year; and

WHEREAS, the Nashville Ice Tigers became the first Nashville hockey team to ever capture an international championship by winning the Sixth Annual A/E International Silver Stick Finals in Pelham, Ontario; and

WHEREAS, the Silver Stick Hockey Tournament was founded in Ottawa, Canada by J. J. Kinsella for boys of Peewee and Bantam age from the Ottawa area and New York State; needing a trophy to award the tournament winner, a silver hockey stick was donated by the Ottawa Citizens Newspaper; and

WHEREAS, the tournament has since grown to include more than 63,000 participants from all over North America, and it provides a unique opportunity to promote citizenship and international goodwill through the medium of hockey and to foster sportsmanship through international competition for boys and youth of all nations; and

WHEREAS, regional qualifying tournaments are played in the United States and Canada during December and January to determine which teams advance to the finals; and

WHEREAS, fifty-six teams from across North America advanced to the finals and competed in the Atom/Squirt, Peewee, Bantam, and Midget divisions at the four-day International A/E Silver Stick Finals; and

WHEREAS, the Ice Tigers rolled like a juggernaut through the Atom/Squirt A/E 1 and 2 Finals, going undefeated against teams from Richmond Hill, Ontario, and Caledon, Ontario, before demolishing the Dallas Stars Select 4-0 in the final game; and

WHEREAS, serving as a testament to their extraordinary talent and skill, the Nashville Ice Tigers won the Congressional Cup AA Tournament in Washington, DC, by defeating Delaware six to two in the championship game, and the Ice Tigers also won the Smokey Mountain Shootout; and

WHEREAS, this estimable team finished the season with an amazing record of forty-five wins, fourteen losses, and four ties; and

WHEREAS, the ten-year-old members of this extraordinary team are Clay Brewer, Easton Brice, Scott Dalton, Tanner Elmore, Taylor Fagan, Zac Ginn, Caleb Hensel, Matt Peacock, Daniel Perling, Tanner Poss, Van Sullivan, Jacob Svedin, and Nathan Traczewski; the Ice Tigers were guided by the able leadership of Head Coach Ron Brice and Assistant Coaches Rick Hensel and Gary Fagan; and

WHEREAS, the perseverance, determination, work ethic, and talent of this group of boys not only made possible a championship hockey season, but also surely point to their successes in future enterprises; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to acknowledge and applaud the Nashville Ice Tigers on behalf of their successful season and for serving as examples of the exceptional quality of the youth of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby congratulate the Nashville Ice Tigers Squirt Gold hockey team upon its capturing of the coveted Silver Stick Trophy in the 2005 Atom/Squirt International A/E Silver Stick Tournament and wish the team members every success in all their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.